

#### May 2019



Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church 25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ www.bhpurc.org.uk

#### Who to contact

#### Minister

Mark Meatcher 020 8374 0509 minister@bhpurc.org.uk

#### **Serving Elders**

Andrew Caddies 07775 697 255 andrew.caddies@bhpurc.org.uk
Lynda Cook 07949 033 869 lynda.cook@bhpurc.org.uk
Martin Hamblin (Treasurer) martin.hamblin@bhpurc.org.uk
Diann Nicolaides 020 8292 1094 diann.nicolaides@bhpurc.org.uk
Robin Ward (Secretary) 07962 207 256 secretary@bhpurc.org.uk

#### Youth activities

Boys Brigade bb@bhpurc.org.uk Girls Brigade gb@bhpurc.org.uk

#### Other activities

Baby & Toddlers toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk
Book Club bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk
House Group housegroup@bhpurc.org.uk
New Songs newsongs@bhpurc.org.uk

Weekly news sheet link@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings office@bhpurc.org.uk



We are part of a group of United Reformed Churches in the London Borough of Enfield. If you would like to know what we are all doing please subscribe to our NewsShare mailing list at:

http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH. Emails are only sent once or twice a month so you can keep up to date without getting too many emails, you can unsubscribe at any time.

The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month. Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.

"And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." (Luke 24:29)



It is after Easter.

The disciples are waiting.

Wondering.

Probably wandering around in a daze still as well.

Questioning.

"What exactly was it that happened in Jerusalem these past few days?"

They had come to the city full of excitement, full of anticipation and the city, to begin with, had welcomed them, had welcomed him – Jesus the Saviour.

Jesus the Messiah.

Of the Jews.

"But not just the Jews..."

Jesus the Messiah, the Saviour of ALL.

And now, a few days later, all had changed.

The disciples had witnessed a complete change in the attitude of the people.

They had gone from being a crowd roaring out in celebration and praise to becoming a vicious mob. They were no longer partygoers celebrating the arrival of their hero – they were now a noisy gang seeking the opportunity to lynch someone.

And Christ had been ambushed, and crucified.

If that wasn't enough the disciples then began to get the word...

"He is alive..."

"He is alive"

"He is alive"

The miracle had happened and now they were in a waiting game.

Waiting.

Waiting.

Waiting.

This month we join them.

Waiting.

Your ministers

Mark and Melanie



"The vicar's looked at the weather forecast and is preparing us for another roof-appeal."

#### **Smile Lines**

#### Questions asked on a Cruise Ship

- Paul Grayson, Cruise Director for the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line

Do these steps go up or down?

What do you do with the beautiful ice carvings after they melt?

Which elevator/lift do I take to get to the front of the ship?

Does the crew sleep on the ship?

Is this island completely surrounded by water?

Does the ship make its own electricity?

What elevation are we at?

What time is the Midnight Buffet being served?

#### Epitaphs found on headstones

In London: Here lies Ann Mann Who lived an old maid But died an old Mann.

In Hartscombe:: On the 22nd of June Jonathan Fiddle Went out of tune.

In Wimbourne: John Penny Reader if cash thou art in want of any Dig four feet deep and thou wilt find a penny.

#### Here is the News

#### **Praying**

Starting from Wednesday 22nd May, Lancaster Road URC will be open for prayer from 10 am to 11 am every other Wednesday (alternating with the bible study group).

If you can, please do join us for a time of prayer for the church and the community.

All are welcome.

#### **Fundraising**

Thanks to Sylvia and Alison for their work with the Baby and Toddler group which as paid £600 towards phase two of the refurbishment of the Hall.

Thanks also to everyone who sponsored Martin and Lisa's big climb up Mount Kinabalu. So far we have raised £529.52, which is boosted to £600.76 with Gift Aid. If you still want to give, you can at www.give.net/bigclimb.

If you have any fundraising ideas for the church building work please speak to Mark or an Elder.

#### Recycling

The church has registered with TerraCycle to be a public drop off point for biscuit, cracker and cake wrappers. There is a collection box in the church office where you can now drop off any brand of biscuit, cracker and cake wrappers, this does not include cereal or chocolate bars. Please bring in all the wrappers you have and get your friends involved too! Once we have 2kg we can send them to TerraCycle and the church will get some money.

#### **Enfield Homeless Winter Night Shelter**

As you know, Lancaster Road URC was again this year one of the venues for the Enfield Homeless Overnight Respite Service, formerly known as the Winter Night Shelter. This ran for 14 weeks from the 3rd January to 9th April in seven local churches of various denominations, one church for each night of the week, under the umbrella of the Christian Charity 'All People All Places'. The aim was to provide food, shelter, warmth and friendship overnight for up to 12 guests with low support needs who had been referred to the charity by doctors, social workers or other professionals.

We had 64 volunteers from various churches and denominations as well as from the community, working together to do a variety of jobs.

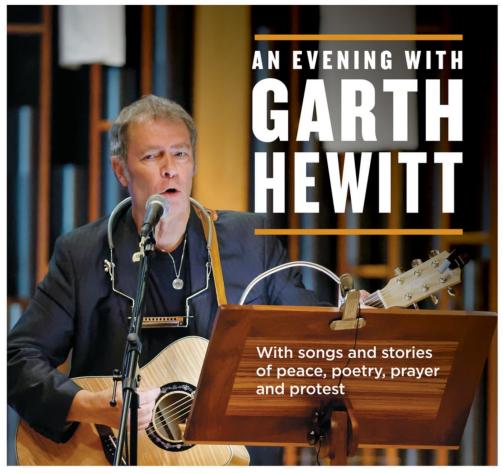
When the guests arrived they were given a cup of tea or coffee and then they could chat, wash or just relax until dinner was ready. After dinner we showed a film on the screen in the church.

The project relied on donations of money from individuals or groups, so thank you to anyone who contributed to this, and also to everyone who supported the quiz evening which raised over £1,000. We also had donations every week of bacon for breakfast from Smiths the butchers, and baguettes and cakes from Greggs the bakers which enabled us to offer lunches to the guests which they could take away with them. A hairdresser came along to cut the guests hair, and a local dentist donated toothbrushes and toothpaste. So this really was a community event.

As mostly the same guests came each week, they got to know each other and started to relax with us. Chatting to them brought home to us how easy it is to become homeless. They were very appreciative of our efforts and extremely grateful for everything we did for them. We had 26 guests during the time the shelter ran. As it drew to a close, 'All People All Places' had found accommodation for most of the guests, which is their aim, and the others were in the process of meeting with various agencies towards that. APAP will continue to support some guests.

All the volunteers found being part of the Overnight Respite a very worthwhile and rewarding experience. While the problem of homelessness exists, we hope and pray that we will be able to continue to show the love of Jesus in our community in this way next year.





### SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 7.30PM

Tickets £11.00 (£8.00 Concessions)
Email: mail@ccurc.org.uk Phone: 07865 675936

Find us on Eventbrite and Facebook 'An Evening with Garth Hewitt'









#### **Green Tip:**

Plastic bags, including bread bags, frozen food bags and other plastic which 'stretches' when pulled (including bubble wrap) can be recycled by taking back to the bins provided in many major supermarkets (Sainsbury's and Morrisons locally).

#### Remember:

- · All items should be clean and free of food
- Tear off sticky labels where possible
- As a general rule, if you can stretch the film then it can be recycled
- Compostable and biodegradable bags are not designed to be recycled and if they enter the recycling system can potentially cause quality issues in the recycled material.

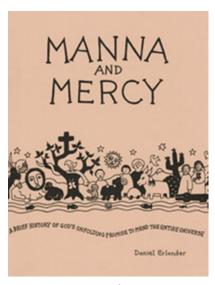
#### Foster Care Fortnight 13th to 26th May

The need is huge: thousands of new foster families are needed every year to care for children in need. These children range from being older children, sibling groups, disabled children and even unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Do you have what it takes to be a foster carer? As one experienced fosterer says: "It's not about age, marital status, sexuality, experience, cultural or religious beliefs and practices; it's about wanting and being able to respond to a child and help them develop and thrive."

Time and energy are the greatest commitments, from the moment you first make your application. One foster carer says that what makes it all worthwhile for her is "the quiet moments when a child has been out and tells you they are glad to be home again, or in watching a child who has never bathed before play in a bath of bubbles. Their giggles and happiness are a gift that's priceless."

For more details https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/fcf19



Manna and Mercy

Beginning on **Saturday 4th May** at 9.30am the Breakfast Bible Study Group will be studying the bible using Daniel Erlander's book "**Manna and Mercy**".

Subtitled "A Brief History of God's Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe", Manna and Mercy is a 100 page paraphrase of the whole bible but is defined as "a graphic novel of sorts, written with imagination, clarity, humour, and cartoons. Built around the themes of justice, sharing and forgiveness, it helps us to look at scripture with new eyes and rediscover how it can become a means of life and grace rather than destruction and death."

The Breakfast Bible Studies are held at Christ Church URC on the 1st and 3rd Saturday mornings of each month and include sharing of a light breakfast with one another as well as delving into the bible and hopefully helping us to grow in our faith.

Why not come along and join us as we begin to look at a new book together?

#### **Diary**

#### May

#### See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

The diary is also online at www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar

Sun 5th		Prayers in the church Communion with Revd Martin Legg
Sun 12th	10:30am	Parade with Revd Melanie Smith
Fri 17th	7:00pm	Boys' Brigade Awards evening
Sat 18th	7:30pm	Garth Hewitt concert at Christ Church, see page 8
Sun 19th	11:00am	No service at BHP URC, Joint Service at Palmers Green URC led by Garth Hewitt
Wed 22nd	7:00pm	Girls' Brigade Awards evening
Sun 26th	10:30am	Worship with Evodian Fonyonga

# Next newsletter deadline: Sunday 12th May

All material for inclusion should be emailed to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk

ST - TS

#### **Prayer Diary**

#### MAY 2019

I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws.

Psalm 119:7

#### Wednesday 1st

Roman Way

#### **Thursday 2nd**

Staff and pupils at Lea Valley Academy

#### Friday 3rd

Those suffering from HIV & AIDS and the charities who seek to find a cure

#### Saturday 4th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

#### Sunday 5th

Give thanks for our Elders

#### Monday 6th

Stephen

#### **Tuesday 7th**

Missionaries in Europe

#### Wednesday 8th

St Marks Road

#### **Thursday 9th**

Staff and pupils at Aylward Academy

#### Friday 10th

Elijah, our sponsored child in Zambia

#### Saturday 11th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

#### Sunday 12th

Thanks for Christian organisations providing aid when disasters strike

#### Monday 13th

Sue

#### **Tuesday 14th**

Missionaries in Asia

#### Wednesday 15th

Second Avenue

#### Thursday 16th

Staff and pupils at Oasis Academy Hadley

#### Friday 17th

Child carers and the charities who help with support and enjoyable events

#### Saturday 18th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

#### **Sunday 19th**

Thanks for all the benefits we enjoy living in England

#### Monday 20th

Sylvia

#### **Tuesday 21st**

Missionaries in the Americas

#### Wednesday 22nd

Southbury Road

#### **Thursday 23rd**

Staff and pupils at Enfield Grammar School

#### Friday 24th

Children and staff at Al-Shurooq School in Bethlehem who we support as a church

#### Saturday 25th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

#### Sunday 26th

Thanks for those who love us and share our lives

#### Monday 27th

Tom

#### **Tuesday 28th**

Missionaries in Africa

#### Wednesday 29th

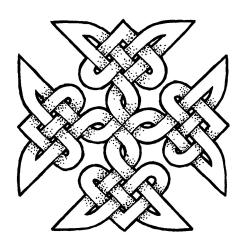
Third Avenue

#### **Thursday 30th**

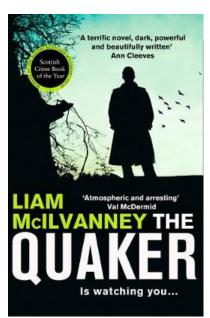
Staff and pupils at Edmonton County School

#### Friday 31st

Those caring for vulnerable adults and the charities which help



#### **Book Club**



The Quaker by Liam McIlvanney

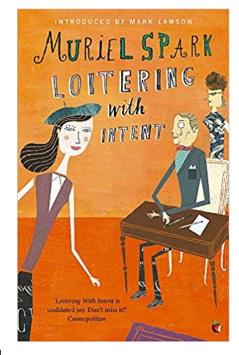
To appreciate this book, you must take yourself back to pre-technology in the Scottish Police Force; perhaps not such an easy task. The characters were not so likeable and oh the smoking! One forgets how bad it was. One must pass an eye over the frequent f word.

The twists and turns were quite clever, but we did wonder about the title; not quite seeing where it came from.

Perhaps not one to miss at your peril!

We will meet again on Monday 29th April having read 'Loitering with Intent' a classic from Muriel Spark.

Sylvia



# Update from Beyond Ourselves, with whom we sponsor Elijah

We are thrilled to be celebrating our **10 year anniversary** this year. It really is incredible to take a moment and be thankful for all that has



IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE

been achieved since we officially started partnering with schools in Zambia 10 years ago. Over that time, together we have:

- Enabled over 8,000 children to have access to quality education
- Partnered with over 100 students in the past five years to receive our High School Bursaries
- Seen **over 35** teachers advance in their professional qualification
- Celebrated the Grade 7 pass levels increasing year on year, and for the last five years they have remained significantly higher than the national average
- Witnessed significant improvements in both physical growth and health

We have seen each of the schools we are partnered with demonstrate exponential growth. From schools where multiple year groups all learn in one room, taught by volunteers who, on the whole, have no more teaching experience than having been taught themselves; to becoming schools that have been commended by the District Education Board as "excellent examples of practice for other Community Schools on the Copperbelt".

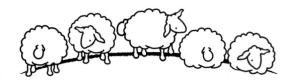
Across the board, there has been evidence of growth, change, development and transformation - all we ever hoped for. There is much to celebrate from the past 10 years!

#### **Rotas**

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea and Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
5th	Evelyn	Sylvia	Sylvia	Yvonne	Robin H
12th		BB/GB	Ivy & Jane	Alison	Tony
19th	11:00 Service at Palmers Green URC				
26th	Evelyn	Sue	Yvonne	Sylvia	Robin H

If you can fill in the gaps above please put your name in the sheet on the wall in the lounge.

If you would like to do any of the above but feel you'd need a little guidance first please talk to Lisa, she'll make sure you find the right person. The sound room is easier than you think - go on, volunteer!



#### Safeguarding Statement

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

We expect all of our leaders, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this. Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

Please visit http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding for further information.

## Christian Aid Week (12 – 18 May) 'All mums should live'

Sierra Leone is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum. Every day 10 women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Jebbeh is heavily pregnant but as her baby grows, it's not joy that fills her heart, but fear. When Jebbeh's sister Fatmata went in to labour, there were so few ambulances that Fatmata had no choice but to



walk for three hours under the baking sun, to the nearest hospital. The journey was long and with every step Fatmata struggled to keep walking.

Jebbeh told us: 'My sister was crying out with hunger. She died on the side of the road. She never gave birth.'

This Christian Aid Week, together, we can make childbirth safe for mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world's poorest mums a chance to live.

This Christian Aid Week, 12-18 May, our church will hold a collection at the service on 12th May. If we raise £300, it could help provide a new delivery bed so more mums like Jebbeh can deliver their babies safely.

#### The Beatitudes: 'Blessed are those who mourn'

The Beatitudes, at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12), present the values of the kingdom of God. In 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted' (5:4), Jesus appears to be saying 'Happy are the unhappy'!

It's not wrong for Christians to be sad or grieve, as we can still experience God's blessing ('blessed'). Jesus promises God's comfort for our loss, mourning, pain and hurt. This is the work of the Holy Spirit into our lives. He is described as the 'Comforter' (John 14:16) i.e. 'the one who comes alongside us to help' (lit). He assures us of Jesus' presence to share our sadness, make us aware of His love and strengthen us in our sorrows. Jesus has been in this place Himself, when He shed tears at the tomb of His close friend Lazarus (John 11:35).

There is also a godly grief which the Spirit brings into our lives, as we reflect on our messy lives. Peter wept bitterly after denying that he knew Jesus (Matthew 26:75). He makes us aware of our spiritual poverty, including our failures and shortcomings when it comes to loving and serving God. The Holy Spirit is also alongside to assure us of God's forgiveness and cleansing as God's children (Romans 8:16).

The Spirit also helps us to share the Father's broken heart for our suffering world and for the communities of which we are part. Jesus Himself wept over Jerusalem, because its inhabitants failed to see what was happening in their midst (Luke 19:41).

We can live under God's blessing in sadness, as He is able to turn our tears to joy, even though our comfort will only truly be complete in heaven. 'God comforts the disturbed and disturbs the comfortable.'

The Rev Paul Hardingham

#### **Prayer**

#### I'm a doubter

I listen, but I can't hear your voice.
I call you, but you don't answer.
I'm longing for certainties, but there are only more questions.
I'm a doubter.

And yet, I address my prayers to YOU. I speak to you on my journey through darkness, longing for light and answers.

I am like your disciple Thomas, doubtful and insecure in my faith. You appeared to Thomas so he could lay his hands on your wounds: the living proof.

God of doubts, send me a sign and let me put my hands on your wounds! Is it you I'm speaking to?

Carla Maurer
From the URC prayer handbook 2016 for 3rd April looking at John 20:19-31

Ed: If you have a prayer you would like put in the newsletter instead (or indeed as well as...) do email it to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk. If you want it in a particular month make sure you meet the deadline for that month, usually the second Sunday of the month. Thanks.

#### **Boys' Brigade News**

April has been quite an eventful month for the Boys Brigade in the lead up to our awards ceremony on the 17th of May. In our weekly meetings the boys have been getting on with their bird box projects. It's been an eventful few woodworking sessions with some highlights being Taejah trying to screw a piece of wood to the air and Butcher having enough of the faffing that he ended up bringing his own drill to speed things up. All the boys have had a lot of fun in this project and hopefully all the birds around Bush Hill Park will now have somewhere (moderately) warm to call home.

The big event of this month has been our long awaited Easter Expedition. On Friday the 5th, five boys and four staff members set out for the chilly hills of the Peak District. The boys were off to learn the skills they would need for DofE. and the staff were there to help them learn how tough it can be on expedition. Mr Caddies in particular was teaching some of the boys (but mostly the members of staff) about sleep deprivation with his nightly snoring sessions, like someone trying to chainsaw a duvet in half. The boys, for their parts, really proved themselves over the weekend, with no big falling outs or arguments, and (almost) edible cooking. In the words of Mr Butcher "when it's all burnt, it all tastes the same". Even young Mr Taejah Daley managed to come out of his shell a bit, exploring a whole new range of facial expressions and sentences lasting more than four words. The weekend wasn't without a lot of effort though with over 20km walks on both the Saturday and Sunday (ignoring the height climbed), it's fair to say that everyone pulled their

weight over the weekend approaching every new challenge with an keen attitude. We were also blessed by great weather over the weekend, with all four days being warm (maybe not so much in the mornings) and rain free.

On the Monday morning the boys were treated to a trip to the local activity tent to take part in some gill scrambling. If you want to know what gill scrambling is imagine walking up stream in a slippery and wet river with two buckets of freezing water on your feet, every now and then traversing waterfalls and jumping in plunge pools. Mr Caddies felt it would be best if he supervised from the surprisingly dry and warm river bank, it was interesting how many boys were willing to give him a hug afterwards. Once your feet warmed up a bit it did start to become very enjoyable, especially the last climb up a waterfall on ropes. Once back in the minibus and dry we drove to a clearing near the road and had a barbeque lunch to finish the weekend off and head home. We managed to get all the way back to St. Albans before the minibus broke down!

Boys Brigade is currently on break over the Easter Holidays and after all the effort boys and staff have put in over these past few months, it is a much needed and well deserved one at that.

Tom 'Bomber' Brown

#### Wordsearch

This month (31st May) the Church remembers the visit of the virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. Both were pregnant, and the visit gives us a poignant glimpse of two humble, ordinary women, caught up in a great event that would shape world history. Their trusting faith in God and total acceptance of His will, shine through.

After Jesus is born, Mary fades into the background, and makes few appearances: when she loses her Son in Jerusalem, when she urges Him to help the wedding party in Cana; and when Jesus gives her into the keeping of the beloved disciple when He is on the cross.

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in the history of mankind. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well deserved it is. "All generations shall call me blessed..."

visit virgin cousin mary elizabeth pregnant glimpse humble ordinary women great history trusting faith god acceptance will iesus jerusalem cana special honour blessed generations ISFNLPGCANAIN
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ELIZABETHAMAT
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UMGOERUONOHYU
TNDLMPINIGRIV
IRSBLESSEDUNI
TPOOLANISUOCE

#### Other local church activities

May			
Date	Time	Activity	Location
5th	3pm	Tea and worship in the hall	BHP Methodist
20th	2:15pm	Friendship Club Speaker - Revd Melanie Smith	Christ Church
30th	10.30am	Community coffee morning	BHP Methodist

#### Weekly

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Sun	6.30pm	Service (1st of the month is Café style, 4th of the month is Contemporary with the band)	Lancaster Road
Mon	10am 7.30pm 7.45pm	Ladies Bible Study English Conversation Club Prayer at Betty's (Fortnightly)	Living Room Living Room BHP Methodist
Tues	10am 10.30am	Tots and Toys United Prayer (1st and 3rd of the month)	Gospel Hall Winchmore Hill Baptist
	1.30pm	Open House (Coffee and Chat)	Living Room
Wed	9.45am 9.45am 2pm	Bible Study (Fortnightly, alternates with below) Prayer (Fortnightly, alternates with above) Wednesday Fellowship (Talks from a variety of speakers, see Margaret Barbour for detail)	Lancaster Road Lancaster Road BHP Methodist
Thurs	1pm	Back to Life (Support Group / Board Games) starts with lunch	Living Room
Fri	10am 4pm	Shoppers Coffee Morning EPIC (Club for kids in years 3-6)	Lancaster Road Gospel Hall
Sat	9am	Breakfast Club (1st and 3rd of the month)	Christ Church

#### **Weekly Activities**

**Monday** 6.15pm Boys' Brigade Junior Section

7.30pm Boys' Brigade (Company Section)

8.00pm Book Club (Once a month, see inside for

date)

**Tuesday** 8.00pm House group (2nd & 4th Tuesday)

Wednesday 9.30am Baby & Toddler Group

6.15pm Girls' Brigade

8.00pm New Songs (1st Wednesday)

**Thursday** 7.30pm Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit

training (when advised)

**Friday** 9.15am Prayers in the Hall, open from 9 for a chat

first

9.45am Baby & Toddler Group

6.00pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys

**Sunday** 10.00am Prayers (1st Sunday)

10.30am Worship with groups for children and

young people (Communion 1st Sunday)

6.00pm Sunday Evening Reflection (2nd Sunday)

